

(a) the number of proposals for collaboration in industrial ventures received from foreign companies during the last six months, as a result of the new industrial policy,

(b) whether these have been examined and if so, whether any of these have been approved, and

(c) if so, the details of the approved foreign collaboration scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF P J KURIEN) (a) to (c) After the announcement of the New Industrial Policy, i.e., w.e.f. 1st August, 1991 to 29th February, 1992, approvals have been given by Government as well as Reserve Bank of India for a total of over 890 foreign collaboration proposals. These include more than 300 proposals envisaging over Rs. 1141 crores of foreign equity investment.

The details of approved foreign collaboration proposals viz. name of the Indian company, name of the foreign collaborator, name of the country, the nature of collaboration and the items of manufacture are being published by the Indian Investment Centre, New Delhi, as a supplement to its monthly Newsletter. Copies of these publications are sent regularly to the Parliament Library.

#### Price of Coal

2406 ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to increase prices of coal,

(b) whether there is any link between this proposed increase and partial privatisation of the coal industry

(c) whether the Government have received suggestions or recommendations of any international, financial agency on the subject, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S B NYAMAGOUDA) (a) Prices of Coal were last revised in December 1991. At present there is no proposal to further increase these revised prices.

(b) In view of answer to (a) above, does not arise

(c) No Sir

(d) Does not arise

[Translation]

#### Drinking Water in Rural Areas

2407 SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA  
SHRI RABI RAY  
SHRI BARE LAL JATAV  
SHRI SARAT CHANDRA  
PATTANAYAK

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether a time-bound programme or policy is proposed to be formulated to find out a permanent solution to the problem of drinking water in rural areas and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL) (a) and (b) As on 31.1.92, there were 4581 No Source problem villages yet to be provided safe drinking water facilities in the States of Assam, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tripura and Uttar Pradesh. All other villages in these States and other States/ Union Territories have been covered fully or partially.

A time bound action programme has been formulated by the above States to

cover the remaining No Source problem villages by 31.3.93. The Central Government has released a special assistance of Rs. 135. 81 crores to 8 States so far.

[English]

### **Zero Unit of NLC**

2408. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the status of 'Zero Unit' of Neyveli Lignite Corporation;

(b) the time by which power is proposed to be generated there; and

(c) the total estimated cost thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) to (c). Government sanctioned in March, 1989 addition of 1 X 210 MW to TPS II, known as zero Unit, at an estimated cost of Rs. 397.26 crores. presently, the possibilities for having this project implemented through the private sector's participation are under examination. meantime, the cost of the project has escalated and is now estimated around Rs. 712 crores (Approx.) at 12/91 base. The project has a gestation period of 48 months from the date of revised sanction.

[Translation]

### **Handing over of coal industry of private sector**

2409. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to hand over the coal industry to the private sector;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the percentage of success expected in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) and (b). There is at present no proposal to hand over the Coal Industry to the Private Sector

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

### **Development of Ukni Open Cast Mining Coalfields**

2410. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have approved development of Ukni Open Cast mining under Western Coalfields' at an estimated cost of Rs. 11.37 crores;

(b) if so, the estimated annual production from Ukni;

(c) the details of the other open cast mines being considered for development in the near future, and

(d) the total number of opencast mines in western coalfields along with the details of the annual production of each?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) and (b). Ukni DCP of WCL (capacity 1.10 mty). has been sanctioned by the Government in January, 1992 at an estimated capital cost of Rs. 100.37 Crores.

(c) and (d). Presently two projects viz Gondagaon OC and Mugoli OC of WCL are in advance stages of appraisal by the Government. These two projects have also been identified for development in the near future. During the year 1990-91, WCL had 19 opencast producing mines which produced 13.06 m.t. of coal during that year.